



Norman R. Price, M. D.

an era came to close with the passing of Dr. Norman R. Price last week. He was the one of the country doctors in Pocahontas who went by foot, horse, and by car, in foul weather and fair, up and down the mountains and valleys, minister to the needs of the people. Since 1903 this strong man, who ran a 30-mile foot-race, answered calls, not only in Pocahontas but in sections of Webster, Randolph and Nicholas counties. He wore out seven horses and fifteen automobiles. Having delivered between five and six thousand babies, it was no wonder that during his illness practically every family recalled that he had brought one of them into the world. He reached his goal of 90 years, with several months left, and died, as he wanted, a gentleman, in command of his situation.

Coming as a boy in 1885 to Berlin's Bottom, where his father had been born, he saw the town of Marlinton come into being and watched it grow. He served as mayor and also served on the County Court. Dr. Norman held almost a century of living history in his phenomenal memory.

June 1965
HANNA, Mrs. Fanny McClung — 53, Anthony, Greenbrier County. Thursday at home. Surviving: parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard McClung of Anthony; sisters, Mrs. Anna Spence of Alderson, Mrs. Ava Clever of Frankford, Mrs. Grace Bundy of Anthony and Mrs. Ina Utterback of Charleston; brothers, Ernest McClung of Caldwell and Leroy McClung of Lewisburg. Service 3 p. m. Saturday, Wallace - Wallace Funeral Home, Lewisburg. Wallace Memorial Cemetery, Clintonville.

Deaths

Dr. N. R. Price

Norman Randolph Price was born in Mount Clinton, Virginia, December 5, 1874, the son of the Rev. William Thomas and Anna Louise Randolph Price, and died Wednesday, May 12, 1965, in the Pocahontas Memorial Hospital after a few weeks' illness.

As a young man he was a partner in The Pocahontas Times. He then studied medicine at the University of Maryland Medical College, and had practiced in Marlinton since 1903. He was a captain in the Army Medical Corps in World War I.

His wife, Jean Kinsey Price, preceded him in death, as did also a sister, Susan A. Price, M. D., and four brothers, Willie Price, James W. Price, M. D., Andrew Price, and Calvin W. Price.

Surviving him are a daughter, Mrs. Carl (Jean) Stockwell, of Paducah, Kentucky, and a son, Norman R. Price, Jr., of Chandler, Arizona; a granddaughter, Jean K. Stockwell, of Alexandria, Louisiana; and a sister, Mrs. Anna V. Hunter, of Sweet Chalybeate Springs, Virginia.

Services were held in the Marlinton Presbyterian Church Friday afternoon by the Rev. W. E. Pierce, with burial in Mountain View Cemetery.

LIFE

By Andrew Price

The life I live, the life I prize
Seems tame to world-worn
weary eyes;

Those frantic souls spurred on
by lust,

For power and place till all is
dust;

They never know the sweet
release

Among the purple hills of peace

I know not what the years may
hold,

My dreams may fade if I grow
old,

But this I know, each golden
year,

Makes home, and friend, and
life more dear;

Each year the heavens brighter
gleam,

Each year enhances field and
stream.

I know I gaze with raptured
eye,

On scenes that once I idled by;
I envy not the potentate,

The rich, the mighty, high and
great.

My books, my friends, my moun-
tains free.

S. D. Kirk

Solomon Davis (Dee) Kirk, age 86, of Hillsboro, died in the Pocahontas Memorial Hospital on Thursday, March 19, 1959, after a stroke.

He was born December 11, 1872, in Boyd County, Kentucky, the son of the late Joseph Lakin and America Lusk Kirk. He was married January 5, 1893, to Fannie Stephens, who preceded him in death. Their children are Dakota (Mrs. C. W.) Hill, Ithaca, New York, Ballard Kirk, of Droop, Bascom Kirk, of Vinton, Iowa, and Marie (Mrs. Henry) Walton, of Livingston, Montana. He was again married to Berdie Hayes, of Hillsboro, who survives. They have one son, Sanford Kirk, of Mill Point.

Also surviving are three sisters, Mrs. Lizzie Hayslette, of Catlettsburg, Kentucky, Mrs. Ella Richards, of Renick, and Mrs. Carla Hayslette, of Cincinnati, Ohio; and two brothers, George Kirk, of Catlettsburg, Kentucky and William Kirk, of Ashland, Kentucky.

Mr. Kirk was a member of Wesley Chapel Methodist Church and Pocahontas A F and A M No. 121, and had served as a member of Pocahontas County Board of Education. He came to West Virginia in 1903 with a lumber operation near Renick, and had lived at Hillsboro since 1908. He had engaged in business in Williamson, Logan and Charleston.

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon in Wesley Chapel Methodist Church by the Rev. L. E. Milem and the Rev. Collier Harvey. Burial was made in Oak Grove Cemetery.

Oct 65
PUSEY, Jack — 55, of Frankford, Greenbrier County, Monday at home. Member Renick Baptist Church. Surviving: brothers, James of Baltimore, Harrison (Buck) of Phoenix, Ariz., Merel (Bud) of Caldwell; sisters, Mrs. Shirley Galford of Cass, Mrs. Margaret Meighors, Mrs. Gertrude Thompson, Mrs. Jean Ervin, all of Baltimore, Mrs. Earl Hinkle of Frankford. Service 2 p. m. Wednesday, McCraw Funeral Home, Lewisburg. Morningside Cemetery, Renick.

DEC 73 - 65
SQUIRES, Asa Mack — 87, of Frankford, Greenbrier County, Monday in Greenbrier Valley Hospital, Ronceverte. Member Walnut Grove Methodist Church, farmer and stockman. Surviving: several nieces and nephews. Service 2. m. Wednesday, Wallace and Wallace Funeral Home, Lew.

Pocahontas Times

Front Page: Last of a Kind

N — The Pocahontas Times, last hand-set newspaper in the area, until it went to offset printing two years ago, has declined to change its ways with tradition and sentiment.

The front page of the Times still is hand-set, just as it was in 1892 when William T. Price bought the paper to give his sons a newspaper.

"For a good reason," said Mrs. Jane Price Sharp, Times owner, "we want to continue hand-setting the type for the front page. We don't want to give it up. As far as we know, this is the last hand-set newspaper in the country."

The flatbed press, a relic that had been used to print the Times since 1911, is mostly silent now, although it is still hand-set for off page proofs, and is occasionally started for the front page.

The use of the flatbed press at the Pocahontas weekly wasn't an accident. A story in the paper said it announced its arrival "by coming on the floor."

The Smithsonian Institution wanted to move the press and its type to Washington, D.C., for three months during the Bicentennial celebration. The press would probably have been willing to go.

The main piece of equipment at the Times is the job printing press, which dates back to the 1800s and still is in use.

When Cal Price, died in 1957, Mrs. Sharp took over the paper, continuing another tradition at the Times. Most of its employees, especially its typesetters, have been women.

It is said that Price, a kindly man, would not correct the ladies' typesetting mistakes for fear of hurting their feelings. But, his daughter says the legend isn't true. He did correct mistakes when he was sure.

Price was renowned as a country editor, avid reader, Sunday School teacher and perpetrator of mountain lion stories in his "Field Notes" column in the Times. He wrote his columns in longhand.

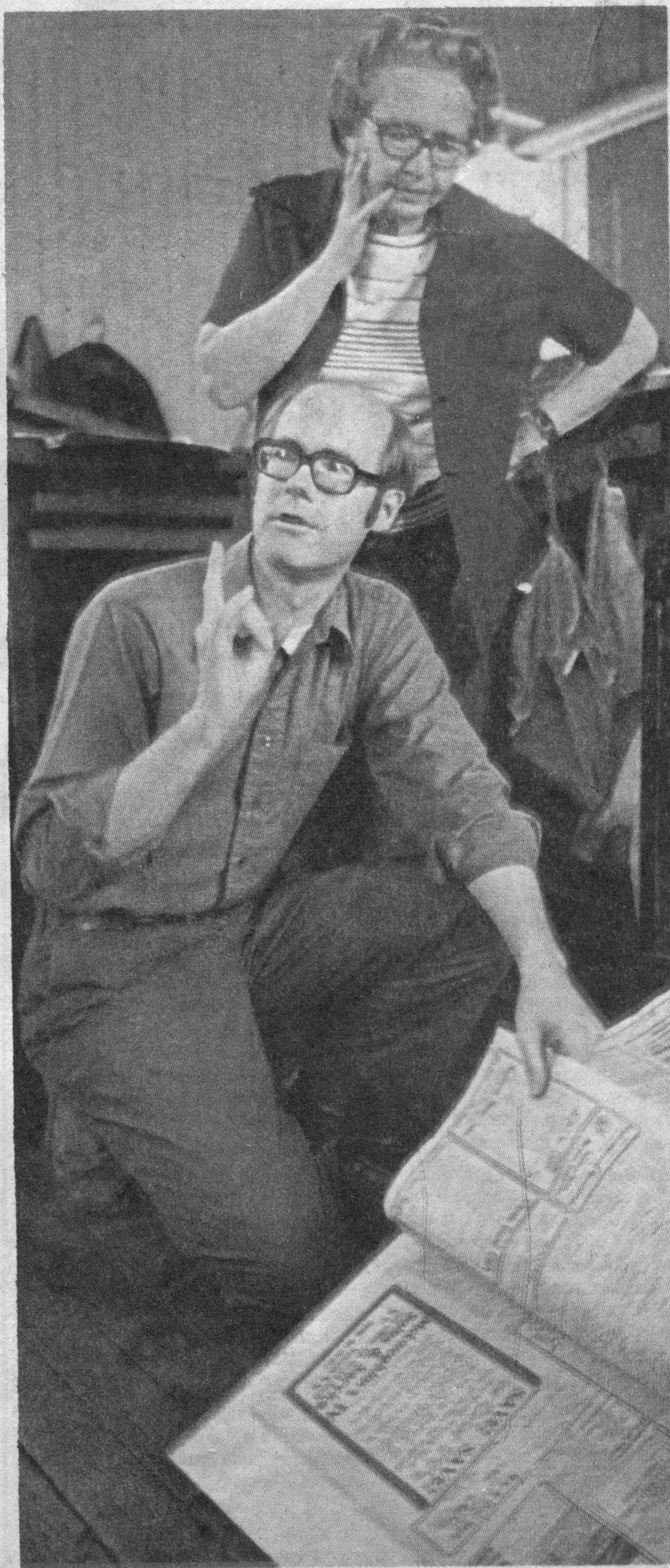
John Withers, an employee of the Times since 1943, said he knew a lot about mountain lions, or panthers, and believed in them.

Mrs. Sharp remembers her father as "a newspaperman, churchman and a good man." A cover photo of Price that appeared in the Sunday State Magazine many years ago hangs in the Times office. It shows him unshaven, wearing a work shirt and his hair combed back. "I fussed a little about that picture," Mrs. Price said.

"He was a great reader," said his daughter. "I expect he was better read than many college graduates." History and politics were his favorite subjects, she said.

Bill McNeel, Price's grandson who works at the Times, remembers his grandfather as "just a unique man, a man of the church." McNeel's collection of the newspaper dates back to World War II. He is short and he worked in the shop.

The back room at the Times is a cluttered collection of Indian artifacts, stuffed animals and birds, and other memorabilia collected by Price and his three brothers. "Not throwing anything away was a rule," said McNeel. "This room hasn't changed much over the years."



KEEPING A TRADITION alive at the Pocahontas Times are Mrs. Jane Price Sharp, the paper's owner, and Bill McNeel, grandson of legendary former owner Cal Price. They still hand-set the type for the newspaper's front page.

Text By Skip Johnson
Photos by Lawrence Pierce

Pocahontas Times

Front Page: Last of a Kind

The Pocahontas Times, last hand-set newspaper in the region, went to offset printing two years ago, but has declined to give up tradition and sentiment.

The Times still is hand-set, just as it was in 1892 when William T. Price bought the paper to give his sons a newspaper.

"For the same reason," said Mrs. Jane Price Sharp, Times owner, "we will continue hand-setting the type for the front page. We will give it up. As far as we know, this is the last hand-set newspaper in the country."

The old press, a relic that had been used to print the newspaper, is mostly silent now, although it is still hand-set for page proofs, and is occasionally started for the front page.

The flatbed press at the Pocahontas weekly wasn't an accident. The story in the paper said it announced its arrival "by the floor."

The Smithsonian Institution wanted to move the press and the building in Washington, D.C., for three months during the Bicentennial. The press would probably have been willing to go.

The Times is the job printing press, which dates back to 1892. It is in use.

Cal Price, died in 1957, Mrs. Sharp took over the newspaper. Another tradition at the Times. Most of its employees, typesetters, have been women.

Cal Price, a kindly man, would not correct the ladies' types for fear of hurting their feelings. But, his daughter says the legend isn't true. He did correct mistakes when he was in charge.

Price was a country editor, avid reader, Sunday School teacher and author of mountain lion stories in his "Field Notes" columns. He wrote his columns in longhand.

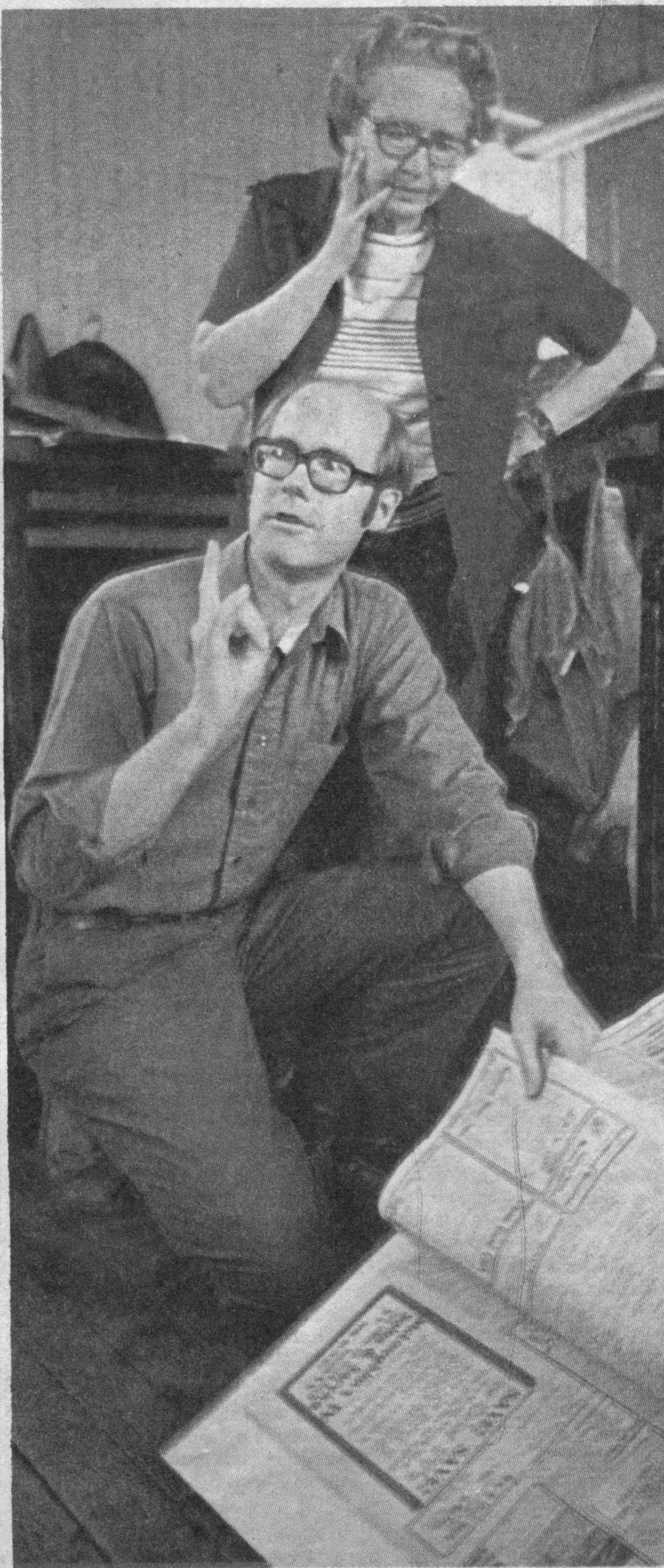
Others, an employee of the Times since 1943, said they had heard about mountain lions, or panthers, and believed in them.

Price's daughter remembers her father as "a newspaperman, churchman and a good man." A cover photo of Price that appeared in the Sunday Morning Magazine many years ago hangs in the Times office. Price is unshaven, wearing a work shirt and his hair is white. "I know a little about that picture," Mrs. Price said.

"He was a reader," said his daughter. "I expect he was better than most college graduates." History and politics were his interests, she said.

Price's grandson who works at the Times, remembers his grandfather as "just a unique man, a man of the church." McNeel's grandfather's involvement with the newspaper dates back to World War II when he worked in the shop.

At the Times is a cluttered collection of Indian artifacts, animals and birds, and other memorabilia collected by the three brothers. "Not throwing anything away was a tradition," McNeel said. "This room hasn't changed much over the years."



KEEPING A TRADITION alive at the Pocahontas Times are Mrs. Jane Price Sharp, the paper's owner, and Bill McNeel, grandson of legendary former owner Cal Price. They still hand-set the type for the newspaper's front page.

Text By Skip Johnson
Photos by Lawrence Pierce

Front Page: Last of a Kind

MARLINTON — The Pocahontas Times, last hand-set newspaper in the country until it went to offset printing two years ago, has declined to sever all its ties with tradition and sentiment.

The front page of the Times still is hand-set, just as it was in 1892 when the Rev. William T. Price bought the paper to give his sons something to do.

"There's no good reason," said Mrs. Jane Price Sharp, Times owner, of the decision to continue hand-setting the type for the front page. "We just hated to give it up. As far as we know, this is the last hand-set newspaper in the country."

The ancient flatbed press, a relic that had been used to print the Times since 1911, is mostly silent now, although it is still hand-operated to run off page proofs, and is occasionally started for the benefit of visitors.

The debut of the flatbed press at the Pocahontas weekly wasn't an auspicious one. A story in the paper said it announced its arrival "by falling through the floor."

In 1976, the Smithsonian Institution wanted to move the press and Mrs. Sharp to Washington, D.C., for three months during the Bicentennial, but she declined. The press would probably have been willing.

Another relic at the Times is the job printing press, which dates back to 1901 and still is in use.

When her father, Cal Price, died in 1957, Mrs. Sharp took over the paper, continuing another tradition at the Times. Most of its employees, particularly its typesetters, have been women.

Legend has it that Price, a kindly man, would not correct the ladies' typesetting mistakes for fear of hurting their feelings. But, his daughter insisted the legend isn't true. He did correct mistakes when he found them.

Price was renowned as a country editor, avid reader, Sunday School teacher and perpetrator of mountain lion stories in his "Field Notes" column in the Times. He wrote his columns in longhand.

Mrs. Evelyn Withers, an employee of the Times since 1943, said Price talked a lot about mountain lions, or panthers, and believed in their existence.

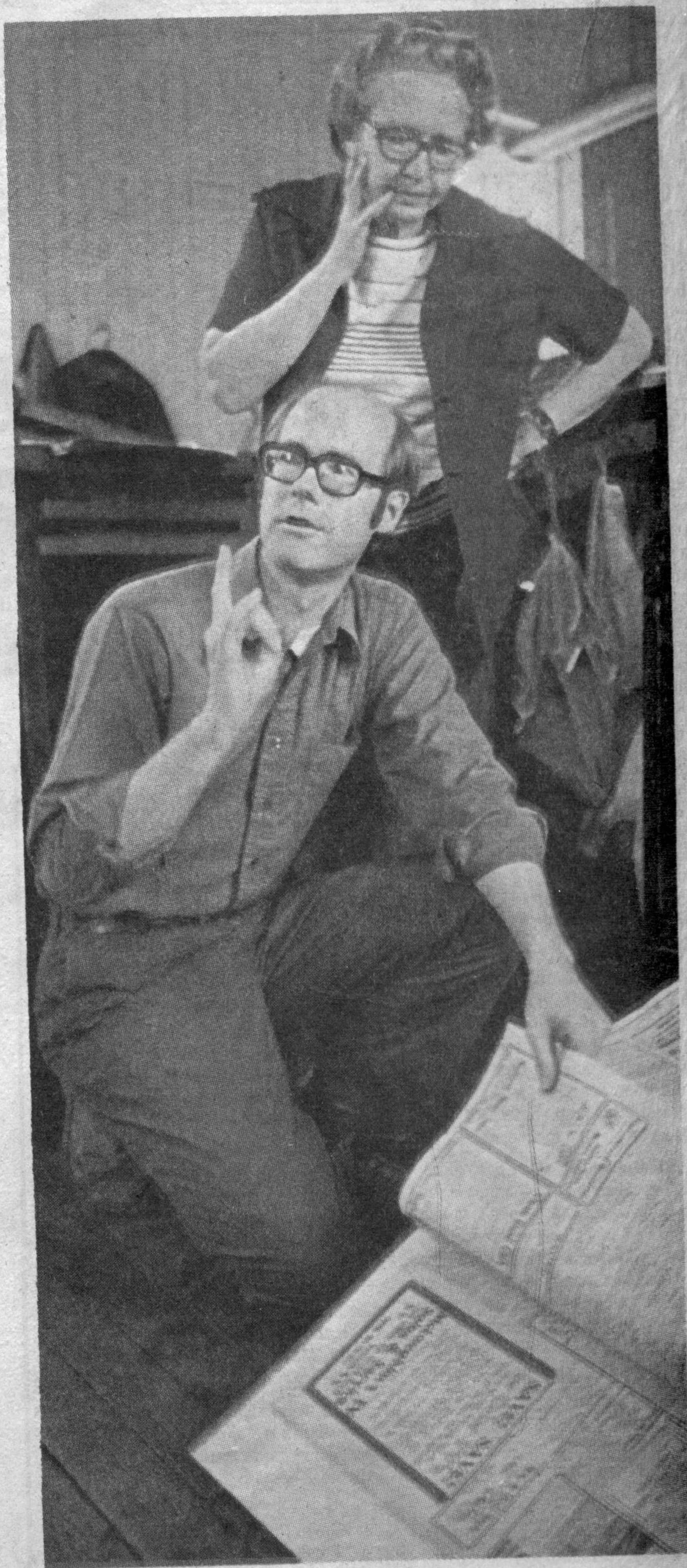
Mrs. Sharp remembers her father as "a newspaperman, churchman and gardener." A cover photo of Price that appeared in the Sunday Gazette-Mail State Magazine many years ago hangs in the Times office, showing him unshaven, wearing a work shirt and his hair tousled. "He fussed a little about that picture," Mrs. Price said.

"He was a great reader," said his daughter. "I expect he was better educated than many college graduates." History and politics were his favorite subjects, she said.

Bill McNeel, Price's grandson who works at the Times, remembers his grandfather as "just a unique man, a man of the church." McNeel's earliest recollection of the newspaper dates back to World War II when help was short and he worked in the shop.

The front room at the Times is a cluttered collection of Indian artifacts, stuffed animals and birds, and other memorabilia collected by Price and his three brothers. "Not throwing anything away was a family habit," said McNeel. "This room hasn't changed much over the years."

Text By Skip Johnson
Photos by Lawrence Pierce



KEEPING A TRADITION alive at the Pocahontas Times are Mrs. Jane Price Sharp, the paper's owner, and Bill McNeel, grandson of legendary former owner Cal Price. They still hand-set the type for the newspaper's front page.

Mr. Waugh was a veteran army reserve officer and an employee in the accounting office of the Specialty Motors Department of the General Electric Company before retiring in 1973. He served 40 years with the U. S. Army Reserves holding the rank of Lieutenant Colonel at the time of his retiring from the Reserves in 1973. His army service included duty with the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930's and service during World War II and the Korean War.

A native of Marlinton, he was the son of the late Harlow and Gertrude Gwin Waugh.

He was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church where he served on the endowment board and was on the board of directors of the Nicholas Wernle Children's Home, Richmond, Indiana, an institution of the American Lutheran Church. He had been a volunteer at the Veterans' Hospital, was a past president of the General Anthony Wayne Council of the Reserve Officers Association, a member of the G. E. Supervisors Club, and a member of the Pocahontas County Historical Society.

Surviving are his wife, Margaret Seabold Waugh; a daughter, Mrs. Knox Wyatt, Amelia Island, Florida; a son, Dr. Robert Harlow Waugh, and one grandson, Rowan Douglas Waugh, New Paltz, New York, and two sisters, Mrs. R. Bruce Crickard, Valley Head, and Alice Rowan Waugh, Marlinton.

Services were held at 10 a. m., Wednesday, August 9, in the Elzey-Dickey-Haggard Home for Funerals in Waynedale. Burial was in Covington, Memorial Gardens.

Memorial gifts were made to the St. John's Lutheran Church Radio and Endowment Fund, the Heart Fund, and the Marlinton Presbyterian Church.

mer member of the legislature, assistant tax commissioner and mayor of Lewisburg.

A World War I veteran, Mr. McLaughlin was a retired farmer and businessman, having worked for the J. R. Reynolds Company as a salesman.

A resident of Lewisburg 54 years, he was a Mason and a member of the Old Stone Presbyterian Church.

Born October 21, 1895, in Dunmore, he was a son of the late Edward and Margaret Mann McLaughlin. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Gray and Frank, and a sister, Dessie.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Agnes [Polly] Sydenstricker McLaughlin and two sisters, Mrs. Glenna Morris, of Huntington and Mrs. Margaret Smith, of Charleston.

Services will be held at 11 a. m. Friday, at the Old Stone Presbyterian Church by Dr. T. W. Apperson. Burial in Rosewood Cemetery.

Visitation will be Thursday, 7 to 9, at the Wallace and Wallace Funeral Home.

Madaline McNeill

Miss Madaline McNeill, 61, of Buckeye, died Wednesday, September 6, 1978, in Pocahontas Memorial Hospital.

A teacher for 41 years in the Pocahontas County school system, Miss McNeill was a member of the Swago United Methodist Church, Swago Extension Homemakers Club, Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority, a 1938 graduate of Concord College and had worked as a 4-H leader for many years.

Born March 13, 1917, in Buckeye, she was a daughter of the late A. W. and Etta Beverage McNeill.

Survivors include one brother, Dr. E. Meade McNeill, of Athens, and one sister, Mrs. Goldie Smith, of Buckeye.

Services were held at two p. m. Saturday in VanReenen Funeral Home with the Rev. B. B. Mitcham officiating.

Burial was in Mountain View Cemetery.

Mr. Dahmer was a member of the Cass United Methodist Church and a retired lumberman. He had served as recorder to the Town of Cass for many years.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Nola Mae Bennett Dahmer; six daughters, Mrs. Martha Levisay, of Staunton, Virginia, Mrs. Pauline Sheets, of Kirby, Mrs. Beulah Moore, of Marlinton, Mrs. Clara Good, Virginia Beach, Virginia, Mrs. Juanita Filuta and Mrs. Charlotte McClure, both of Augusta, Georgia; one son, Gilbert, Jr. of Canton, Ohio; two sisters, Mrs. Ella McFerrin, of Fairlea and Mrs. Dairy Bennett, of Ronceverte; two brothers, Austin, of Frankford, and Resa, of Maxwellton; seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

A son, Ray Dahmer preceded him in death in October 1970.

Services were held Saturday, in the Cass United Methodist Church with the Rev. Gregory Lewis officiating. Burial was in Arbovale Cemetery.

Edith Burdette

Edith Harper Burdette, 78, Orlando, Florida, formerly of Hillsboro, died Friday, December 1, 1978, in Orlando.

Born March 30, 1900, in Hillsboro, she was a daughter of the late Harry W. and Mary Harper.

Mrs. Burdette was a member of the Oak Grove Presbyterian Church, Order of the Eastern Star and the National Retired Teachers Association.

Survivors include two sons, David, of Orlando, Florida, and John Burdette, of McMurray, Pennsylvania; a brother, Julian Harper, Buckeye, Arizona; and nine grandchildren.

Also, preceding her in death were her husband, Sam A. Burdette and three brothers, Frank R. Harper, Henry L. Harper and Wardell Harper.

Services were held Tuesday in the Oak Grove Presbyterian Church with the Rev. J. D. Arbuckle officiating. Burial was in Oak Grove Cemetery.

ter of Maranthus and Effie McMillion.

Surviving her are two daughters and a son, Ruth Speck Wilma Thomas, both of andria, Va. and James M. of Rockville, Maryland; grandson, Brian Thomas; brothers, Orid McMillion, freesboro, Tennessee, and er McMillion, Hot Springs; two sisters, Cleo Ervin, mond, Va., and Drexal Loomis, California.

She was a member Wesley Chapel M Church, where service held Wednesday after the Rev. Virgil Hornb burial in Mountain View

Harry Winters

Harry Winters of Hillsboro, died January 6, 1979, in Valley Hospital after a lingering illness.

He was a heavy operator and car member of the U dist Church.

A native and dent of Hillsboro December 14, 19 Winters Jennings ret Friel Fowler.

Surviving him Nellie Holbrook children, Harry er, at home, Fowler Fisher, four grandel brothers, Geor er, of Hillsbor Fowler, of land, William of Orange, Vi ters, Mrs. Va tor, New Y Butts, Atv Mrs. Lillian linton.

Services w in Wesley Methodist boro, by the beck with b Cemetery.

A. G. Killingsworth

Arden G. Killingsworth, 78, Marlinton, died Friday, March 31, 1972, at his home of a heart attack.

Born at Marlinton August 1, 1893, he was a son of the late William G. and Louemama McKeever Killingsworth, and had lived all his life in Marlinton.

Mr. Killingsworth was a graduate of Marshall University, served in World War I, and was a former teacher and coach in Edray District High School (later Marlinton High School). He later became a building contractor and also engaged in farming. He was a member of the Marlinton United Methodist Church.

Surviving is his wife, Mrs. Leeta Beard Killingsworth.

Services were held Monday afternoon in the Marlinton Presbyterian Church by the Rev. Maynard Crawford and the Rev. Donald Wood, with burial in the Mountain View Cemetery.

A lot of history died this week with Arden Killingsworth. He grew up with the town of Marlinton and has built many of the homes and buildings. He once told us he was the first baby born in Marlinton but never would say anything more about it. The Post Office was changed from Marlins Bottom to Marlinton in 1897 and the town laid off from farmland in 1891. so his birth date of 1893 makes it sound reasonable. Mr. Killingsworth discussed the early growth of Marlinton at a meeting of the Historical Society a year or so ago and his comments were recorded.

Charles Burns LaRue, 84, of Hillsboro, died Monday, May 15, 1972, in the Pocahontas Memorial Hospital after a short illness.

Born at Millboro, Virginia, November 7, 1887, he was a son of the late Francis and Agnes A. LaRue.

He was a member of the Hillsboro United Methodist Church and was a merchant at Hillsboro.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mabel Clark LaRue. Survivors include one son, Charles C. LaRue, of Keams Canyon, Arizona; one daughter, Mrs. James Michael, of Marlinton; two brothers, Graham LaRue, of Hillboro, and Robert LaRue, of Charleston; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Thursday afternoon at 2:00 p.

H. A. Yeager

Henry Arnout Yeager, 68, of Marlinton, died Tuesday, May 2, 1972. He suffered a heart attack the Friday before while working in his garden.

Born at Frank, January 12, 1904, he was a son of the late William Jacob and Grace Hull Yeager.

A retired educator, he was educated in Marlinton, schools Concord College, and he received his master's degree from West Virginia University. He began his teaching career in Alderson where he served as a principal, teacher and coach, he served two years as superintendent of the Alderson Independent School District, and he was principal, coach and teacher at Peterstown.

He was principal of Marlinton High School for 28 years and served one year as Federal Program Coordinator of Pocahontas County Schools until he retired in 1970.

Yeager was a member of the First United Methodist Church where he had served as chairman of the official board for several years and was lay leader and teacher of the Men's Bible Class.

He was a member of the Kappa Delta Phi Honorary Educational fraternity, worshipful master of the Marlinton Masonic Lodge No. 127 for two terms and also served two terms as district deputy grand master of the seventh district. Yeager served three years as a member of the Non-Athletic Activities Committee of the West Virginia High School Association, Marlinton Town Council, president of the Pocahontas County Farming for Better Living Council for one year, president of Pocahontas County Education Association, president of Pocahontas County Principals Association and was listed in Who's Who in the East and Leading Personalities of the South.

Survivors include his wife, Helen Friel Yeager; two sons, Henry Jr., of Rockville, Maryland, and James A., of Alexandria, Virginia; three daughters, Mrs. Clarence Mulheren, of Pearisburg, Virginia, Mrs. Ted Stokes, Fort Smith, Arkansas, and Susan Yeager of Huntington; two brothers, Hull Yeager, of Hart, Michigan, and Winston Yeager, of Charleston.

Services were held Friday at the First United Methodist Church in Marlinton with Rev. Maynard Crawford in charge. Burial was in Mountain View Cemetery.

Deaths

Charles Camper

Charles Camper, 70, Monday, May 8, 1972, Pocahontas Memorial Hospital, where he had been patient since suffering a several weeks ago at his home.

Born at Buena Vista, he was a retired employee of the National Shoe Company. Preceding him in death was one brother, Norman C. and one sister, Ma Hogsett.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Arlene Withers Camper, one son, Charles L. Camper, of Alexandria, Virginia, one grandchild, also one sister, Mrs. Par Hanlin, of Ronceverte, one half sister, Mrs. Elmore, of South Charleston, and one half sister, Mrs. Elmore, of South Charleston.

Funeral services will be held Thursday afternoon at 2 p.m. in the Van Reenen Home Chapel. Burial will be in the Mountain View Cemetery.

Flavius T. Bell, 88, of Marlinton, died today, Monday, May 24, 1972, in the Greenbrier Hospital.

Born, April 19, 1884, in Marlinton, he was a son of John and Virginia Bell. He was a former farmer and the B&O Railroad. He was a retired farmer and a charter member of the Ruritara Frankford Greenbrier County Bureau, member of the Christian Church of County, Va.

He is survived by his wife, Nettie LaFon Bell, and two daughters, Mrs. F.L. Owen of DuBois, Pa., and Mrs. Addie Stebers, Castle, Va.; 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Wallace Funeral Home with Rev. Ira Hill of Hillsboro officiating. Burial will be in the Greenbrier Memorial Garden. Friends may call at the funeral home Tuesday, p.m. Tuesday.

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Fading of Cass Troubles Citizens And Some Mourn for Logging Days

By Michael Snyder 1971
Staff Writer

CASS — "I liked it better in '16—there were a lot of jobs on the river then," said Laban Wolfe, sitting in front of the Cass Country Store.

Wolfe, in his late 70s, came to Cass that year from Moorefield during the heyday of the logging era.

"I like Pocahontas. We have got good water," he said. But for Wolfe there's no future for Cass. He said the town will be gone in five years.

HIS MAIN argument, and a persuasive one, is a lack of employment.

Wolfe also blames the Don Mower Lumber Co., which owns practically all the houses in Cass. It is a separate entity from the Mower Lumber Co., a subsidiary of the Grace steamship line, which owns the huge mountain behind the town. Don Mower bought the old mill, buildings, and frame houses for a reported \$200,000.

IT THEN doubled the rent twice in five years, forcing some to leave the town.

Part of the town's handsomeness is still present, but many of the once white houses are turning a faded gray, abandoned behind falling fences and rotting boardwalks.

The high rent is particularly rough for the retired people, who make up a considerable portion of the town's 200-plus residents. Those living on small pensions have no other home. Others, who are able, have left Cass.

T.P. Galford, 73, disagrees with Wolfe. He says the Cass Scenic Railroad and the Observatory at Green Bank are "good deals," which help the economy of the area and the entire state.

"If it wasn't for them there wouldn't be a half dozen people in this town," he said.

Like Wolfe and most people in Cass, Galford loves the land.

HE PREDICTS there will be a movement back to the country from the "big smoke cities." And Galford, who owns land outside Cass, knows there is a market for his holdings.

Joseph Daugherty, 25, of nearby Clover Lick, and Warren C. Teeter Jr., 17, of Cass, both feel the youth would stay if there were more opportunities in the area.

Teeter said he'd never go to the city and "will probably be here the rest of my wife." He said he likes the peace and quiet of Cass.

Talk in the town easily drifts to Don Mower—and the threats to the land such as strip-mining on Cheat Mountain. They are afraid it will spread.

The people don't like it in that there's no maintenance on the houses, and the company won't give paint to help the problem for the occupied houses.

Another sore point mentioned was a complaint that the Cass Stagecoach, a local private venture, had to pay \$100 a month to Don Mower Co. to cross 12 feet of company land to reach the Greenbrier River. This and other reasons have caused the stage not to run this summer.

An official of the Don Mower Lumber Co. declined to comment on the situation.

Cheat Mountain is symbolic for Pocahontas Countians. For 40 years it produced virgin timber for the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Co., and later the Mower company. It is celebrated in tale and legend and is renowned for its hunting, and fishing, especially Shavers Fork of the Cheat River.

MANY ARE outspoken in their hatred for strip-mining. "They're going to ruin Cheat Mountain . . . And those skidders (logging equipment) . . . this is the only wilderness left. They're going to ruin this country but there's too much money in it," said one who preferred to remain unnamed.

"Now, Wolfe, they're coming out with this alibi that they're years behind in their coal," he continued.

John Castle, 35, said, "They raise hell about a man bear-hunting but they (strip-miners) destroy 10,000 acres and nobody does anything about it."

Castle also said the game, including bears, is returning as the forest grows back on Cheat Mountain.

Wolfe also complained of poor logging practices, and like his friend, condemned the use of skidders and bulldozers for tearing down young trees while removing timber.

"They're going to cut three million feet out of Leatherbark (the creek which supplies Cass' drinking water) . . . It'll ruin the water," he said.

He also points to the Greenbrier and

said that poor timbering practices are responsible for its low water despite plentiful rain this summer. Wolfe also mentioned the sewage in the water, including that of the Cass Company Store.

Jim Reep is the young superintendent of the Cass Scenic Railroad. He, like Galford, said the railroad is holding the town together.

HE ALSO is concerned about the run-down condition of the company-owned houses.

"It could be restored and made a tourist attraction but you can't do anything with it while the company owns it," he said.

Reep foresees a kind of mountain Williamsburg with multiple attractions to hold tourists longer. He would like for Don Mower to sell out to someone who will do something with the town.

But for those like Wolfe, Cass belongs to the past.

He says of the logging camps, "There was plenty to eat — each morning beefsteak, potatoes, coffee; and dinnertime, everything. I'm a-telling you, that was the best place I've ever seen."



Marine Lieutenant Colonel Dallas R. WALKER, an Associate Professor of Naval Science, University of Oklahoma and Executive Officer, Naval Science Officers Training Corps Unit (NROTC), University of Oklahoma has been selected to attend the Nation's top-level service school, The Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island. The purpose of the year's intensive study is to further an understanding of the fundamentals of warfare in order to prepare officers for higher command. Emphasis is on the integrated employment of the elements of naval power in the furtherance of national objectives. The roles of the other military services are studied as well as the importance and methods of participation in joint and combined committee work. The scope: Includes international relations; basic strategic factors in national power; strategic areas of interest; formulation of national interest, objectives and policies; study of those agencies responsible for the formulation and execution of national security policies; military planning progress; fundamentals of command decision; service capabilities; war gaming; operational and strategic planning from force to national level based on a background of cold, limited and general war; also one formal long paper of thesis standard on some broad facet of sea or naval power relating to our national strategy.

Colonel and Mrs. Walker (Ione) and their two sons, Dwight Dallas and Rambridge Ray, plan to visit his Father, Mr. E. E. Walker, of Hillsboro, enroute to Newport. They expect to be in Hillsboro during the first week of August. The academic year at the Naval War College begins 17 August 1972

